

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data acquisition apparatus comprising multiple input modules having different measurement intervals, wherein said data acquisition apparatus is characterized in that a control means is provided for simultaneously driving each input modules at a desired measurement interval.

2. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 1, characterized in that a measurement start command transmission control means, which selectively sends measurement start commands to the individual input modules, is provided as a control means.

3. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 2, characterized in that the measurement start command transmission

control means is a memory, which stores in tabular format the input modules to which measurement start commands are to be sent in the measurement start command transmission timing.

4. The data acquisition apparatus described in any of the claims 1 through 3, characterized in that each input module has multiple measurement channels.

5. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 4, characterized in that the measurement interval for each measurement channel in each input module differs based on the measurement start command.

6. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 1,

characterized in that a timing circuit, which outputs a sampling timing signal of a prescribed interval based on a common measurement start command, is provided as a control means to each input module.

7. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 6, characterized in that each input module has multiple measurement channels.

8. The data acquisition apparatus described in claim 6, characterized in that the measurement interval for each measurement channel in each input module is different.